

**Town of Uxbridge
Conservation Commission
21 South Main Street
Uxbridge, Massachusetts, 01569
508-278-8600, x 2013 and x 2020**



**Conservation Commission Minutes
Monday, July 1, 2013
7:02 - 10:32 PM**

*Board of Selectmen's Room, Uxbridge Town Hall, 21 South Main Street, Uxbridge, MA
Please note some items may have been taken out of agenda order.*

AUG 07 '13 AM 09:42
**Received by
Uxbridge
Town Clerk**

Conservation Com. Present: Russell Holden (Chair), Mike Potaski (MP), Larry Lench (LL), Dave Lewcon (DL)

Conservation Commission Absent: Tracy Tibedo,

Commission Staff Present: Jennifer Steel, Conservation Agent

ACTIVE WETLAND CASES

1. RDA FY13-13, 66 Douglas St. (Map 18B, Parcel 4659)

- **Applicant:** Philip and Shannon Lambert **Engineer:** none
- **Proposal:** Install 15' above-ground pool (and gate-at-the-top stairs) on existing lawn.
- **Jurisdiction:** Pool is in RFA and is not exempt because it is closer than 50' from bank.
- **Motion** to issue a Negative Determination with requirement for (1) site visit with Agent to locate placement of sediment fence, and (2) site visit to inspect sediment fence (DL); Second (MP); Vote: (Unan). Applicant will pick up the permit.

2. NOI 312-941 (continued hearing), New England Power/National Grid Right of Way

- **Applicant:** New England Power Company. **Engineer:** BSC Group, Inc.
- **Proposal:** Construct, operate & maintain new overhead power lines, roads and pads public utilities.
- **Presentation:** Lee Curtis (BSC), Dan McIntyre (NEP)
- **Jurisdiction:** Limited Project 10.53(3)(d). Most performance standards are being met.
 - BVW – 7450 sf of “conversion” => wetland replication
 - Bank – performance standards being met
 - BLSF – fill => compensatory storage provided
 - RFA – 149,856 sf alteration => alterations are temporary, so no significant impact
 - VP – canopy alteration new scrub shrub cover provided
 - Wildlife habitat and rare species – habitat alteration => new nesting areas created
- **Motion** to issue Order of Conditions draft as amended (MP); Second (LL); Vote: (Unan).

PROCESSING

3. Discussion with Town Manager (Sean Hendricks). Sean is finishing his 2nd year and now giving constructive criticism to each board. Requirements are many: learning, site visits, paper preparation – thank you

- The commission has not received new members recently and needs to be perceived as supportive.
- **Suggestions**
 - Shorten the meetings to improve recruitment and attendance.
 - Keep focused on Wetlands Protection Act issues.
 - Do your homework – or rely on fellow commissioners or Agent.
 - Make it clear that Commission is there to help applicants get their permits.
 - Try scheduling timeslots for individual hearings.
 - Have motions come from all members when and as they see fit. The commission must be a democracy
 - Consider rotating in a new chairman.

- Consider 5 member board. (That did not appear to receive the support of the Commission.)
- Meet with Recreation Commission – invite them to come to July 15 meeting - to try to divest from recreation activities. Let the 9 members of PPAC coordinate with the Rec Comm.
- Commission responded:
 - Seek to Adopt Non-Criminal Disposition to help with time spent by the commission on violations.
 - Improving town communications with Con Com, if possible.
 - The Conservation Commission Act calls for the commission to be the natural resource caretaker of the town. This second role is frequently neglected, but, Pout Pond is our major initiative in this regard and deserves significant time.
 - Instead of scheduling times for applicants, we have agreed previously to hear each applicant for ½ hour – the applicant may wait until later in the meeting to continue after that or may continue to the next scheduled meeting: This could certainly be more rigorously applied.
 - Few, if any permits have been denied by the commission.

4. Documents to be Considered for Signature

- Minutes June 17, 2013 – Change “stick” to “sticker”. Motion to approve as amended (MP), Second (RH), Vote (3:0:1).
- Minutes June 3, 2013 – Add date of Dutch Hill as June 19. Motion to approve as amended (MP), Second (LL), Vote (3:0:1).
- Minutes May 20, 2013 – Change “Larking” to “Larkin”. Motion to approve as amended (LL), Second (DL), Vote (3:0:1).
- Bill -- Microbac -- \$25
- Bill -- Microbac -- \$25
 - Motion to approve 2 bills from Pout Pond Operating Fund (LL), Second (MP), Vote (Unan)
- Bill – Printing of permits -- \$217
- Bill – Fee structure signs (2) -- \$182
 - Motion to approve 2 bills from Pout Pond Dotation Fund (LL), Second (MP), Vote (Unan)
- Bill – Septic Cover -- \$200
- Bill -- Plumbing -- \$200
 - Motion to approve 2 bills from Pout Pond Operating Fund (MP), Second (LL), Vote (Unan)

5. Flood maps on display

6. Permitting guide out for review

VIOLATIONS/POTENTIAL VIOLATIONS

- 7. 217 River Rd. – Ex post facto NOI filing is required that will address this as a redevelopment project, that notes stormwater requirements, and need to allow “verge” of River Road to revegetate.
- 8. 79 River Rd. – NOI will be submitted in a few days.

CONSERVATION LAND

9. Pout Pond

- E-coli reading -- ~10 cfu. (swimming is allowed up to 225 cfu). Temp is in low 80s.
- Email -- at PoutPond@charter.net; and on Facebook.
- Swim lessons -- 3 sessions will occur, the first one starts July 8
- Faith Fellowship Sunday in Service -- helped with trash, mulch, lawn raking, etc.
- Beach Rules – Motion to adopt “For the safety of swimmers, in the beachfront areas, fishermen must defer to swimmers and choose alternate locations” (DL), Second (MP), Vote (Unan)
- Motion to renaturalize and create a no disturb area at the west end of the beach near the footbridge (but allow for a path to be maintained to the footbridge) (DL), Second (LL), Vote (Unan).
- Finances – Parking fees are deposited to PP Donation Fund; Swim lesson fees go to PP Swim Fund
- Cross-Country Clinic – There is a desire to host 2 4-day clinics (1st and 3rd weeks of August) at Pout Pond. Clinic will cost \$60. Funds would go to a dedicated fund will be a meeting with the coaches before July 15th There will be a meeting to address issues of hiring “seasonal employees”, General Liability Insurance,

payment of coaches and Pout Pond(?), finalizing the routes, determining needs for signs and safety markings/improvements, and swimming at end of day (possible conflict with swim lessons?). **Motion** to explore so long as there is not a drain on ConCom and Town resources (MP). Second (LL). Vote (Unan)

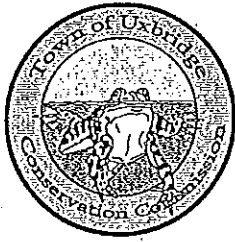
- **Dog walkers** can park on cul-de-sac on Wilson Ave. or on Henry Legg Rd. cul-de-sac.
- It was noted that a **dumpster** may need to be secured. DL noted it would cost about \$200, and that he felt the current arrangement with DPW and volunteers was fine
- **Craft lessons** are being offered free because of grant from Uxbridge Cultural Council.
- Discussion ensued about the amount of time spent by the ConCom on recreational issues. It was suggested that the PP Advisory Committee or Rec. Comm. take over such duties. JS will invite the Rec. Comm to the July 15th Con Com meeting to begin discussions.

WETLAND ISSUES

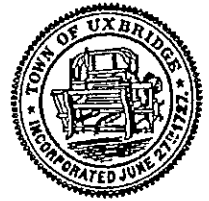
ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH MAY LAWFULLY COME BEFORE THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

- Proposed calendar for meetings 2013-2014 was reviewed. RH will review it for holiday conflicts.
- Ed Maharry, Capital Planning Committee, invited Conservation Commission to planning session July 10. Ideas include:
 - Depaving Pout Pond parking lot
 - Cottage improvements to bring it up to code
 - Connecting Pout Pond to town sewer
- Donna's Office Manual has been developed and edited
- Motion to cut 2 threatening trees at Angel of Hope driveway, and others deemed necessary by arborist (LL), Second (DL), Vote (Unan). JMS will send Dave information about value of standing dead wood.
- Mosquito control informational flier passed out for review. Send comments to Dave.
- Commission reorganization will be addressed at the next meeting
- Funding information will be requested again.
- JS will look into purchasing a camera

ADJOURN 10:32 – Motion to adjourn (LL), Second (MP), Vote (Unan).



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July 1, 2013

Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes

Board of Selectmen's Room, Uxbridge Town Hall, 21 South Main Street, Uxbridge, MA

Respectfully submitted by Ms. Jennifer Steel, Conservation Agent

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. Holden".

Russell Holden, Chairman

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David Lewcon".

David Lewcon, Treasurer

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michael Potaski".

Michael Potaski, Member

Vice-Chair (vacant)

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "L. Lench".

Lawrence Lench, Clerk

Tracy Tibedo, Member

Date